AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 as follows:

Fig. 2 is a schematic view showing the cross-section of a three-layer coating coater. In Fig. 2, 301a, 301b, 301c, and 301d each show a bar constituting coater 3, and fixed employing a bolt. 302a, 302b, 302c, and 302d each show a lip at the end of each bar, and 303a, 303b, and 303c, ~~and 303d~~ each show a slit formed between each of the bars. 304a, 304b, and 304c each show a chamber disposed in the width direction of coater 3. Each coater composition is supplied at the center in the width direction of each chamber or an optional position, spread in the coating width direction, and extruded onto said web from said each lip via each said slit, whereby coating is carried out. In said simultaneous miltilayer extrusion coater, it is possible to constitute chambers as well as slits while matching the number of desired coating layers. The edges of the coating width of said coater are sealed so as to obtain the desired coating width utilizing various width adjusting means, side plates, and the like.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 7 and the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 as follows, these two paragraphs are contiguous:

An object of the present invention is to provide a coating method capable of carrying out uniform coating which is not affected by the flatness of the web, employing an extrusion coating method in which the opposite surface of said web is ~~not~~ supported by a back roll, and further to provide an extrusion coating method capable of decreasing the thickness of a coating composition at high viscosity (for example, not less than 0.01 Pa·s) and of achiev ing high speed coating.

The present inventor has discovered that the above objects can be accomplished by employing the embodiments described below.

1) An extrusion coating method of extruding a coating solution from a coater onto a web-shaped substrate, comprising the steps of:

conveying the substrate in a conveying direction;

supporting by coming in contact with a first side surface of the substrate by a back-roll; and

extruding simultaneously at least a lowermost layer solution and an adjacent layer solution onto a second side surface of the supported substrate in such a way that the lower most layer solution is coated on the second surface and the adjacent layer is superimposed on the lowermost layer solution,

wherein a viscosity Va (Pa·s) of the lowermost layer solution and a viscosity Vb (Pa·s) of the adjacent layer solution satisfy the following formula

~~$Vb/Va \leq 2.5$~~ $Vb/Va \geq 2.5$.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 13 and 14 as follows:

However, when the viscosity of coating solution 305a, when lower layer flows faster than upper layer - upper layer slips and is not torn off, constituting lowermost layer A is adjusted to be lower than that of coating solution 305b,

constituting adjacent layer B, said coating solution 305a extruded from slit ~~303s~~ 303a is quickly elongated between lip 302b and web 1 to form a thin layer. On the other hand, coating composition 305b extruded from slit 303b, which constitutes the adjacent layer works as if it is a slip layer, and the elongation rate of coating solution 305b between lip 302c and said coating solution 305a markedly becomes smaller. As a result, the coating solution is not torn off, and it is possible to carry out desired coating. Further, due to the marked decrease in the elongation rate of said coating solution 305b, the coating solution is not torn off. Thus, it is possible to carry out thin layer coating by decreasing the supply amount of said coating solution.